Upper KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview
Year 5 - Autumn 2 2026-2027

Dear parents, Welcome back, I hope you all enjoyed a relaxing October school holiday. The children made an excellent start to Year 5 in our first half term and I expect the same great independent learners enjoying our topics this half term, where we are providing an exciting, broad a and balanced curriculum. You can find details of the skills we are covering in this overview. back to you as soon as possible. Kind regards, Mrs Neiland, Mr Mckenkie and Mrs Armitage

Catholic life of the school

On Monday morning we begin the week by gathering as a whole school to reflect and pray together. On a Wednesday we do this as a Key Stage. On Friday we have Celebration Assembly when we celebrate the achievements of children from each class.

In class, the children will continue to plan and lead Collective Worship with their teacher on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The children will also attend a variety of school Masses/services, in Church and in school, throughout the year.

The Wednesday Word is available online for each child, every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child.
http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm

During the season of Advent, the children will have the opportunity to give Mary and Joseph a place to stay for the night, with the Travelling Nativity. It will give families a chance to reflect together on the meaning of Christmas and to enjoy some activities together. Our 'ordinary time' prayer bags will stop for Advent.

We are also collecting packed shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Please could you follow the guidance given on the leaflet as to the items that are appropriate/inappropriate to pack. These should be brought into school by Monday 16th November.

We will also do a coin collection for Mary's Meals, a local charity for those in need. Thank you for your support.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we encourage the children to be active at playtimes. We will continue to improve our fitness by completing a 15-minute Daily Mile. Children will be encouraged to increase their ability to jog for this time to run a mile.
Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore, it is important that the children have their refillable water bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.
Healthy snacks are promoted every day and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes. Please avoid sending nuts in any form into school as we do have children with allergies.
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Information and dates to remember:

WC 2nd Nov: Judaism week.
Fri 6th Nov: Own Clothes Day
Monday 9th to Friday 13th Nov: Anti-bullying Week
Monday 17th to Friday 21 Nov: Road Safety Week
Mon 16th Nov: Operation Christmas Child boxes to be in
Wed 18th Nov: Tempest Photographs
Thurs 26th Nov: Year 5 Class Assembly
Sun 29th Nov: Advent begins
Thurs 10th December: Y3 & Y4 Christmas Production
Thurs 10th December: Y5 & Y6 Christmas Production
Friday 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 16th December: Christmas Dinner Day
Monday 14th December: Santa Dash
Thursday 17th December: Christmas Mass/Carols, 11am
Friday 18th December: School closes for the Christmas break.

Homework Information will be set on Google Classrooms

English Homework Books will be sent home on Wednesdays with either a fiction or non-fiction piece of work to be completed and handed in by Monday.

Spellings will be given out on Wednesday and learned throughout the week.

Maths Homework will be given out on a Tuesday and is to be handed in on Friday of the same week.

Reading Each child should read for a minimum of 20 minutes per night and children are to complete their reading records with a summary of the chapter read.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to email me on teachers@socps.co.uk

Year 5

General class Information

Mental Maths

The children will continue to complete daily mental Maths lessons and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to use morning maths books to complete mental Maths tasks. We will also be continuing to focus on learning our times tables.

To best support your child in Maths, please continue to help them with their homework tasks and encourage regular practice of key fluency skills, including times tables and number bonds. Little and often makes a big difference, and your support at home helps to build confidence and secure the foundations they need for future learning.

Reading

The children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions. I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records. Our class reading book for this half term is 'A Girl called Joy' by Jenny Valentine. Your child will bring home two books; a reading banded book and a Sharing Book to read and share with you.

Reading Banded Book

The reading banded book should be at a level the child can read at comfortably and not struggle, with some fluency and understanding. The band will be directed by the Class Teacher.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our children to read for 20 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Home reading records are checked regularly.

Home reading records are checked three times a week and a reading target will be given each week. If your child keeps their own record of their reading, we kindly request that a parent/guardian signs this record, at least once a week to acknowledge their child's reading. If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school, please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message.

Sharing/Library book

In order to encourage your child to develop their vocabulary and become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book they have chosen for you to enjoy together. Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it with them. Discuss pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

The school continues to run an early-doors reading and number club 8am –8:45am each morning. We ask that children are in the club by 8.20am. Please pay using the Parent Pay app.

PE

PE days are Wednesday and Thursday
Swimming – Thursday

Children will be taught swimming skills in Freestyle (front crawl), Breaststroke and Back stroke alongside skills such as lifesaving and enjoying water sports like water polo.

PE – Outdoor

The children will be taught to:
-Work together to develop ideas and rules in rounders.
- Modify the game and rules to create smaller group games.

Please ensure that your child wears the correct PE uniform of navy jogging pants, navy sweatshirt (without a hood please), white t-shirt, royal blue shorts and black trainers.

SAINT OSWALD'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 5 Autumn 2 Topic Map 2026-2027

RE

Prophecy and Promise – Branch 2

- Pupils will learn about David, focusing on two critical events in his life. They will:
- Understand that David was a great king chosen in the Old Testament.
- Know some psalms and learn how the O Antiphons are used by Christians to reflect on the significance of Jesus coming at Christmas.
- Judaism

Please read the RE newsletter on the school website for more information.

Science

Properties and Changes of Materials

- The children will explore the properties of everyday materials and determine:
- Their hardness and link to their uses.
- The transparency and link to their uses.
- The thermal and electrical conductivity of materials.
- Reversible and irreversible changes.

English

Reading

The children will be encouraged to maintain positive attitudes to reading and have an understanding of what they have read. We will be continuing to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.

Writing and Grammar

Using Pathways to Write – Beouwolf by Michael Morpurgo, the children will be taught the skills of:

- Identifying the audience and writing for purpose and layout.
- Make notes on ideas, drawing on reading and research where necessary. – In narrative, describe settings, characters and atmosphere.
-Proof-read for spelling and punctuation errors.
- Use appropriate vocabulary.
-Demonstrate the use of grammar in their writing.

Spelling.

Children will be given spelling lists to learn. They will be taught to spell these at school, find their meanings using a dictionary and discover other words with similar spelling patterns. Children can be practicing their spellings at home and encouraged to spell these throughout each week.

Mathematics

Number and Place Value

- Read and write numbers up to 1,000,000.
- Use <> = to compare numbers.
- Understand place value in numbers with 3 decimal places.

Addition and Subtraction

- Mental addition and subtraction including money.
- Add using column addition and decomposition for subtraction.
- Finding the difference between two amounts using a number line.

Multiplication and Division

- Learn times tables up to 12x12.
- Use knowledge of times tables facts to help find common multiples.
- Find factor of two-digit numbers.
- Divide mentally, deciding whether to round up or down depending on the context.
- Use the grid method to multiply 2, 3 and 4-digit numbers.

Measures / Shape and Position

– Investigate perimeter area and angles.

Year 5 Autumn 2 Topic Map 2026-2027

Year 5 Curriculum Map

Music

Charanga:

The children will learn songs and use skills:
- To move to the pulse with ease.
- To think about the message of songs.
- To compare two songs in the same style, talking about what stands out musically in each of them, similarities and differences.

They will:
- Listen carefully and respectfully to other people's thoughts about the music.
- Talk about the musical dimensions working together in the Unit songs.
- Talk about the music and how it makes you feel.

PSHE

The children will learn about different family structures which will provide opportunities to:

- Promote diversity and tolerance towards difference.
- To make children think about different ways of being brought up and address discrimination against children with 'unusual' family compositions.
- Anti-bullying week
- Being a good friend, dealing with conflict

Journey In Love

- God loves me in my changing and development: Social and Emotional.
- To show knowledge and understanding of emotional relationship changes as we grow and develop.

Geography

What is lifelike in the Alps?

The children will learn what life is like in the Alps. They will be able to:
- Locate the Alps on a world map.
- Locate physical and human features of the Alps.
- Use data to map a route through the Alps.
- Compare the geography of their area with the Alps and describe what life is like in the Alps.

Art and Design

Drawing – I need Space

This unit focuses on retrofuturism and developing artistic drawing skills by:
- Exploring the purpose and effect of imagery.
- Exploring decision making in creativity.
- Developing drawn ideas through printmaking.
- Testing and revisiting ideas using sketch books.

Computing

Mars Rover 1

The children will identify some of the types of data that the Mars Rover collects and:

- Identify how and why data is collected from space.
- Read and calculate number using binary code.
- Identify the computer architecture of the Mars Rover
- Use simple operations to calculate bit patterns.
- Represent binary as text.